

THE PEOPLE'S RECORDER

PUBLISHED FOR THE ELEVATION OF OUR RACE, AND IS AN EXPONENT OF REPUBLICAN PRINCIPLES.

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LEGISLATURE.

What is Being Done By Our Lawmakers Day by Day.

MARRIAGE LICENSE BILL PASSED.

Marriage Tax Measure Killed—Round Trip Ticket Law Posponed.—New SENATE.

Seventh Day.—The Senate met at 10 o'clock for a recess since Saturday.

Senator Gruber moved non-concurrence in the House amendments to the bill.

Senator Henderson moved amendment to provide for the amendment of charters, with certain exceptions, such as railroads and municipalities.

The following new bills were introduced: Marshall, allowing street railroads and trolley companies to connect and to discontinue the superintendent and board of directors to be appointed by the State.

Senator Graydon's resolution to amend the Virginia Carolina National Bank for the penalty of \$2,000 for each note.

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The following new bills were introduced: Livingston, to give preferences to counties in hiring convicts.

Senator Henderson announced that he had received a telegram from Charleston giving the sad news of the death of Mrs. Barnwell.

HOUSE. Seventh Day.—The House or Representatives reassembled at noon and was in session an hour, during which time little was accomplished.

McDow, to complete Winthrop college; Wharton, to provide pension for paralyzed Confederate soldiers and sailors; Ashley, to regulate the granting of bail by magistrates.

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to prevent sale of merchandise in default of creditors. Mr. Mauldin wanted to recommit the bill relating to the hiring of convicts to counties.

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COL. BRYAN SPEAKS.

Enthusiastic Audience Greet Him in Baltimore.

DISCUSSES THE MONEY QUESTION.

Also Elucidates His Position on the Problem of Expansion—A Large Audience Hears Him.

Baltimore, Md., Special.—Hon. W. J. Bryan delivered an address here Saturday night upon the political questions of the day to an audience which filled the music hall, the biggest auditorium in the city to its fullest capacity, and which greeted him and his remarks with the greatest enthusiasm.

Mr. Bryan said in part: "I want to assure you in the beginning that my happiness does not depend upon any honor which the people of this nation can confer, neither do I believe that this nation's happiness or welfare depends upon any one person."

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ANNUAL REPORT OF COMPTROLLER.

The State's Finances and Government Expense Estimate.

The long expected, but necessarily delayed annual report of the comptroller general, upon which financial legislation has been based, has been issued.

The report presents a cash balance showing the amount actually available for expenses of the State government for 1900 to be \$129,574.96.

The estimated expenses of the State government for 1900 are put down at \$906,518.90, leaving \$121,943.94 which must be paid from the taxes of 1900.

In regard to two matters of general interest the report says: On the death of Mr. F. A. Free, county treasurer, and the appointment of his successor, Mr. E. D. Free, it was discovered that the cash in bank to the credit of Mr. F. A. Free was \$8,151.51 less than the amount should have been in hand according to the settlements made at that time.

This shortage was a surprise to all concerned. At the time of settlement of taxes for 1897, in October, 1898, Mr. A. F. Free produced the certificate of the cashier of the Bank of Barnwell, that he had sufficient funds deposited in bank, with a small amount of cash in hand to cover the balance shown to be due by him.

Mr. Free was short at that time there was nothing in the records to indicate it. Had this department the services of an expert auditing clerk, who could make a thorough examination in each instance, and at any time during the year, mistakes and shortages, such as above mentioned would, in my judgment, be avoided.

I am impressed that it would be the part of economy for your body to provide for an auditing clerk, charged with this special work, and who, in addition, could keep the insurance and phosphate records in this office. My observation is that shortages and irregularities occur for the most part by reason of the fact that untried and inexperienced men are sometimes selected to take charge of the auditor's and treasurer's offices and undertake this important work.

DISPENSARY SCHOOL FUND. An examination of this report shows the disbursement of the dispensary profits. On the 18th day of April, 1899, warrants amounting to \$67,204.35 were issued to the county treasurers of 27 counties.

This was on account of deficiency, as provided in the State constitution of 1895, and joint resolution passed, at session 1898. In attempting to comply with the act No. 85, passed at session 1899, I experienced difficulty in securing information on which to make the deficiency appropriation. This act provides that each school district in the State, where the sum realized from the 3-mill school and poll taxes is not sufficient to make \$75 for each school in the district, the comptroller general shall make up such deficiency from the dispensary profits.

Under this head, warrants amounting in the aggregate to \$19,338.03 were sent to the treasurers of 30 counties. For the support of summer schools \$5,000 was paid to the State superintendent of education. The remainder, \$43,457.63, was sent to all the counties in the State pro rata, according to students enrolled in the public schools.

The \$120,000 expended as above, if paid to each county in proportion to pupils enrolled in the free schools, would give 47 1-7 cents for each pupil. If this show of force is continued, you should limit the number of schools in a given section to the school population, say one school for each 45 or 50 children.

General Wood Pleased. Havana, Special.—Gen. Wood returned from an inspection of the institutions of Pinar del Rio. The residents were highly pleased with his visit. General Wood has congratulated General Lee on the condition of his province. He found the plantations in excellent condition and all who desired were at work.

News Notes. The Supreme Court of the District of Columbia has issued an order that the Navy Department submit a survey, appraisal and inventory of the Spanish vessel Infanta Maria Teresa. This is a part of the proceedings brought for the award of prize money to Admiral Sampson, his officers and men, for captures by the United States during the Spanish war.

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THE NATIONAL LAW MAKERS.

What Congress is Doing From Day to Day.

THE SENATE. Twenty-fifth Day.—Senator Hoar's resolution asking for a detailed report of the conduct of the war in the Philippines passed the Senate without division.

The Senate is discussing Hale's resolution regarding the seizure of American flour. Senator Davis says negotiations are proceeding satisfactorily. Senator Aldrich made a public agreement to take a vote on the currency bill the 15th of February. He wished to make the date the 8th, but Allen objected.

Twenty-sixth Day.—The day's proceedings were confined to speechmaking. Senator Wellington, of Maryland, led off with a long argument on the Philippine question, maintaining that the Philippines should have the right to govern themselves, this government affording them such protection as they might need.

Senator McEnery, of Louisiana, gave notice that he will have something to say about the proposed amendment to the constitution of North Carolina. Teller offered another installment of his speech on the financial bill. Mr. Teller had not concluded his remarks when he suspended for the day. The Senate then adjourned.

Twenty-seventh Day.—A speech, sensational in interest and international in its importance, was delivered in the Senate by Mr. Hale, Republican, of Maine. The occasion of the utterances was the simple question whether a resolution introduced by Mr. Allen, Populist as to the recognition by this country of diplomatic representatives of the Transvaal republic, should be directed to the President, or to the Secretary of State.

Mr. Hale made the question the text of an impassioned speech in which he declared that nine-tenths of the American people sympathized with the Boers in their struggle for liberty against one of the greatest powers of the world. He spoke with unusual force, decisiveness and earnestness, even for him, and his passionate eloquence claimed the closest attention of every auditor.

At the opening, the Allen resolution, calling upon the Secretary of State for information as to whether any representative of the Transvaal had applied to the United States government for recognition, and if such application had been made, if it had been accepted; and if not, why not, was laid before the Senate.

Pending the further discussion of these measures the Senate adjourned. Twenty-eighth Day.—Little new information was developed in the Clark senatorial investigation by the Senate committee on privileges and elections. T. F. Normolle, of Butte, Mont., a member of the last Legislature, testified that he had been approached with an offer of \$12,500 to vote for Mr. Clark, but had not accepted it, and had voted for Conrad throughout the contest.

Mr. Cason, who was on the stand Tuesday, was recalled for additional cross-examination. He said he had been urged by Mr. Clark to secure the vote of Representative Marye. Mr. Clark indicating to him that he would pay \$10,000 for it, but as he found that Marye would vote for Clark anyhow, he did not approach him with the proposition.

As neither side was prepared to introduce other witnesses, the committee, after a hearing of less than two hours, adjourned until Monday. THE HOUSE. Twenty-fourth Day.—The urgent deficiency appropriation bill was taken up in the House. It was the general expectation that it would open up a stormy debate upon the question of expansion, in view of the large army and navy items it contains, but members only became very much engrossed in a discussion of an item of \$150,000,000 for rural free delivery, in which all are personally interested, and the subject of expansion was barely touched upon.

The last hour of the debate was enlivened with an attack by Mr. Richardson the minority leader upon the Secretary of the Treasury for his course in connection with the sale of the New York custom house. Mr. Hopkins, of Illinois, championed the Secretary.

Twenty-fifth Day.—The Roberts committee concluded its work and came to a unanimous finding of the facts. The majority report will be signed by seven members. It favors exclusion of Roberts from the House. The minority report, signed by two members, favors the seating of Roberts, then expelling him. Those who sign the latter are DeArmond, Democrat, and Littlefield, Republican. Democrats Lanham and Miere voted with the majority.

Twenty-sixth Day.—The House passed the Senate bill to extend the powers of the director of the census, after striking out the committee amendment to authorize the director to contract for extra printing with private contractors. After some further debate the committee rose, the bill was passed and the House adjourned.

Twenty-seventh Day.—The pension appropriation bill, carrying \$145,245,250, was passed by the House. It was made the vehicle of attack upon the Commissioner of Pensions by Mr. Curtis, of Kansas, who was seconded by Mr. Leitz and Mr. Norcor, of Ohio; Mr. Robinson, of Indiana, and other Northern Democrats. All inveighed against the lack of liberality in the administration of the pension laws. The bill was ably defended by a number of members from both sides of the aisle, who were put upon the floor by the present, empowered by the House to discontinue the pension law.

RACE GLEANINGS.

The Genteel Negro.

There are thousands of Negroes in Virginia and all over the South who are as refined in their ways and as pure in their lives as are the blue blood aristocracy of the South. An indecent, uncleanly, boisterous Negro is as repugnant to them as he is to the most refined white man or woman. With this element, the respectable Negro holds no communication, save as he comes in contact with him in his daily work.

To this his well-bred white man or woman will dissent, especially those who employ first class Negro house servants. And what is true about this class of house servants, is equally true about a large number of others who are engaged in mercantile pursuits, or as teachers, dentists, druggists, doctors, lawyers, etc.

We are a part and parcel of the South; this is our home, and we are as much interested in her welfare as are our more favored white brother, and we are opposed to lawlessness and disorder. This being the fact, we think it injustice for the dominant race to make us suffer for the disorder, bad manners and offensiveness of the lower classes.

Thus far Virginia, to a great extent, has not sought by law to humiliate the Negro, regardless of his worth or education, but the proposed "Jim Crow Car" measure seeks that end.

Now, it does seem to us an act of injustice for those who have the power so to do, to humiliate the "genteel" Negro because of the short comings of a few.

These "genteel" Negroes have made men and women of themselves, and are striving through their schools; Y. M. C. A., churches, literary societies and journals to raise their less thoughtful and more ignorant brother to higher planes of thinking and living.

For the legislature to enact a measure that would compel refined Negro men and women to ride in cars with the lower and baser classes would forever destroy and block the noble work that they are doing. The prosperity of our Southland is to a great extent dependent upon the elevation of the Negro, and the "genteel" Negro's influence over the ill-mannered members of the race will be lessened when they are humiliated by law to the same level as the unmannered.

We feel certain that the breed of noble Virginians is not extinct, and when the facts are presented to them in their true light, no separate car legislation will be enacted that will humiliate respectable, well-behaved Negroes.

Race Items. With the advent of the New Year came a train of good resolutions and the turning over of new leaves. Many of these resolutions have already been broken and on many of the new leaves have been re-written our short comings of previous years.

But the fact that one resolves to do good and even breaks the good intention, shows his desire to do good. It is said that the road to perdition is paved with good intentions and those who walk therein are constantly stumbling over them. Better is it to intend good and attempt to do it, than to make no attempt whatever.

One of the first things which Congress will put its condemnation upon is the ex-slave pension fraud. We favor a law which will give to all railroad conductors full constabulary powers to eject or arrest all disorderly characters who take passage on their trains.

Notes. Cardinal Gibbons performed the ceremony at the wedding at Utica, N. Y., of Miss Isabella M. Kernan and Clifford Lewis, jr.

Why Changes Are Needed. Change of scene, change of occupation and frequent changes in furnishings and diet are all important at this season, and the time of rest may be secured from these changes even when an expensive outing, or the usual summer vacation, has not been afforded. No woman who has ever tried it can conceive of the rest and pleasure resulting from a change of some sort.

Make such changes as are possible by rearranging rooms in the matter of furniture, pictures, ornaments, etc. Do something, anything, to rest the eye and brain from dead-level monotony. It is said that marked cases of insomnia have been cured by changing from one sleeping-room to another. The wise woman will also change her family dietary as completely as possible as the seasons change.—Pittsburg Dispatch